

**MINUTES OF THE HANOVER BOROUGH
SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING**

May 3, 2021

Chairman Rohrbaugh convened the meeting of the Hanover Borough Shade Tree Commission at 9:00 AM Monday morning, May 3, 2021 in the Hanover Municipal Building, 44 Frederick Street, Hanover, Pennsylvania, as advertised.

Attendance: In attendance were Shade Tree Commission members Jill Rohrbaugh and Joel Weaver; Staff Members Secretary Felix and Public Works Director Grimm.

Approval of the Minutes: It was moved by Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Rohrbaugh to approve the minutes of January 4, 2021. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Mr. James Huston was present from 317 Broadway; he asked for another tree to be planted where a tree was removed. The Shade Tree Commission approved planting a replacement tree Fall 2021 or Spring 2022.

2021 Arbor Day: Although no celebration was held this year, the Hanover Garden Club paid for a sycamore tree that was planted by the Public Works Department at Good Field, at the entry way between the 2 fields off of the parking lot at Forney Avenue. A proclamation was drafted and signed by Mayor Whitman to commemorate the planting, noting the lack of celebration due to COVID 19, to meet the requirements for our Tree City USA designation.

2021 Planting List: Public Works Director Grimm noted the following trees were planted by the Public Works Department with the Biochar mixture, which was recommended by Councilman Hegberg as an aid in tree planting to improve sustainability, especially in the downtown areas where street trees tend to struggle to survive:

122 Baltimore Street	Japanese Lilac
134 Baltimore Street	Japanese Lilac
135 Baltimore Street	Japanese Lilac
138 Carlisle Street	Japanese Lilac
210 Carlisle Street	Japanese Lilac

Mr. Grimm noted the Princeton Sentry Gingko trees were unavailable this year.

Letters were sent to the following property owners since the trees could not be planted due to underground utility conflicts:

4-6-8 York Street
2 Fleming Avenue/Frederick Street

One additional Japanese Lilac may be planted at 327 Broadway, as long as there are no underground utility conflicts.

Mr. Grimm noted that Rockelman's Nursery has a new variety of Maple that is more columnar and may prove to be a good street tree; Public Works planted one at Good Field to monitor growth trends.

Old Business:

935 Broadway-Request to reduce height of sycamore trees: The property owner has asked to have the height reduced on 2 very old, very tall sycamore trees, but our Public Works Dept. cannot trim over 48' with the bucket truck. There is no apparent hazard to warrant hiring an outside contractor to perform the work, although it is allowable for the property owner to hire an insured contractor to thin the crown without severely topping the tree. The property owner paid for a private contractor for high-level pruning in the past; and she is now requesting the Borough to prune the trees in this manner and to absorb this cost. Public Works Director Grimm noted that there is a likelihood that PennDOT may remove these trees prior to the proposed 2022 paving project, since the roots are protruding over the curblin, and may interfere with paving equipment. Penn DOT noted there are several trees with roots encroaching over the curblin along Broadway. Staff will write property owner a detailed response letter.

The following applications were photographed and emailed ahead of the meeting for Shade Tree Commission members to view individually prior to the meeting due to COVID 19 restrictions:

Center Square – Southeast Quadrant: Approved for Public Works Crew to remove dead gingko tree, pending public hearing June 7, 2021.

135 Baltimore Street/New Hope Ministries: Approved for Public Works Crew to plant one Japanese Lilac Tree in remaining open planting area (with biochar), and to remove a portion of concrete to expand the planting area to help sustain proper growth.

732 Blossom Drive: Denied request for planting, after investigation, noting that deed restrictions prohibit trees in the grassplot area in this development, Cherry Tree Phase 1.

303 Fourth Street: Approved for Public Works Crew to remove two dying trees, pending public hearing June 7, 2021.

309 Fourth Street: Approved for Public Works Crew to plant one (1) Japanese Zelkova, pending check for underground utilities; noting planting spaces are too close together to allow another tree to be planted in the adjacent planting area.

Across From 81 George Street: Resident at 81 George Street asked for pruning of sycamore trees across the street along public right of way adjacent property owned by UPMC Hospital. Upon investigation it was determined that no pruning was necessary at this time, as trees were properly elevated above street and sidewalk.

201 Honeysuckle Court: Approved for Public Works Crew to elevate and trim over roadway.

337 Penn Street: Approved for property owner to hire insured contractor to remove 2 trees at the property owner's expense, to accommodate possible replacement of sewer lateral.

711 East Walnut Street: Denied pruning, as trees are properly elevated over street and sidewalk at this time.

1000 East Walnut Street: Approved for Public Works Crew to elevate over sidewalk and remove branch growing onto private property.

307 York Street: Approved for Public Works Crew to remove dying tree, pending public hearing June 7, 2021.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Shade Tree Commission will be held Monday, June 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy C. Felix
Borough Secretary